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A PUBLICATION OF THE 502nd AIR BASE WING — JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO — FORT SAM HOUSTON

For information on sequestration,  
visit <http://www.jbsa.af.mil>.

## Stars show appreciation for BAMC staff, patients

By Maria Gallegos and Elaine Sanchez  
BAMC Public Affairs

"Are you ready?!" Gary Sinise asked the huge crowd waiting for the start of the concert just outside the San Antonio Military Medical Center. They yelled back, "YES!"

"We came here for you," he shouted back to the crowd as they cheered and roared with excitement. And that was the beginning of the celebration.

The Academy Award-winning actor and philanthropist, famously known as "Lt. Dan" from the movie "Forrest Gump" and "Mac Taylor" from television series "CSI:NY," as well as the founder of The Gary Sinise Founda-

tion, hosted the appreciation day for Brooke Army Medical Center warriors, patients, staff and their families March 6.

Sinise's dedication to supporting troops and their families was widely appreciated by the fans who came out to enjoy the event.

"This is an awesome event," said Staff Sgt. Christopher Byers, a wounded Soldier from BAMC's Warrior Transition Battalion. "It lifts your spirits up and takes you away from the daily routine – thank you, Gary!"

Sinise told a local news station that although he played a fictional Viet-

See BAMC, P8



Chef Robert Irvine (left) watches as Gary Sinise flips a burger before the show at Brooke Army Medical Center campus March 6. The event included a two-hour concert from Sinise's "Lt. Dan Band" and a classic barbecue prepared by Irvine, host of the television show "Restaurant: Impossible."

Photo by  
Robert Shields



Photos by Alan W. Boedeker

Joint Base San Antonio senior officials announced the selection of its annual award winners for 2012 at the JBSA Annual Awards Ceremony, held at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel in downtown San Antonio March 8. Pictured here are the winners from the junior enlisted member category. For a story and more photos, turn to Pages 12 and 13.



## JBSA community honors its best

Joint Base San Antonio senior officials announced the selection of its annual award winners for 2012 at the JBSA Annual Awards Ceremony, held at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel in downtown San Antonio March 8.

What was different about this year's selections was that all services – Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard – were represented in the 10 overall

categories, with 37 service members and government civilian employees honored together.

They were selected among finalists from all three JBSA military locations: JBSA-Lackland, JBSA-Randolph, and JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

"We pay tribute to our great Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen, Coastguards-

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## News Leader

A PUBLICATION OF THE 502ND AIR BASE WING - JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO - FORT SAM HOUSTON

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# Leadership is flexible, collaborative

By J.R. Tillery

802nd Mission Support Group  
Technical director for installation support



J.R. Tillery

Over the past 34 years I have led and mentored military and civilian personnel at all career levels.

Yet, after more than three decades of experience, I still find leading people to be the most challenging aspect of leadership. This is true because organizations are dynamic and people are diverse, yet expectations must be set and standards maintained, which drives the need for flexible and collaborative leaders.

Flexible and collaborative leaders balance expectations and standards by motivating, mentoring and holding people accountable without a compromise of core ethical standards. They also develop people who respect diversity, embrace excellence and maximize their potential.

When we think of excellence, we think in terms of the highest end of the quality spectrum.

We think of a superior product or the example of what a leader expects of their staff.

Excellence is a mindset that translates into excellent results. It is the drive and pride that sets an individual apart from the ordinary and the part of each individual that leaders work to continu-

ously cultivate.

From training to mentoring, leaders must remain flexible and collaborative to ensure their staffs embrace excellence in all they do.

Excellence is what transforms an organization and the individual from good to "great".

Flexible and collaborative leaders build great organizations and develop individuals who respect diversity.

Diversity as a concept focuses on a broader set of qualities than race and gender, according to the website <http://hrweb.berkeley.edu/diversity>.

Flexible and collaborative leaders know that the success of an organization and the people who make up the organization depends on the ability to embrace diversity, according to the

website <http://www multiculturaladvantage.com>.

In the context of an organization, valuing diversity means creating a workplace that respects and includes differences, recognizing the unique contributions that each individual makes in order to help each individual cultivate their inherent talent and skills.

But most important, diversity means creating a work environment to help people maximize their potential.

Helping people maximize their potential is no easy task, but it is perhaps the most rewarding aspect of leading people. Just as every individual is different, so too must the approach to leading, mentoring and coaching them to excellence be different.

When leaders create an environment where people can be innovative and original they start the process of helping individuals maximize their potential.

Finally, maximizing potential is all about pushing individuals to do more and to be proactive about accomplishing their objective.

Bottom line: push your people to strive to be "excellent" at whatever they are doing. There is a saying that there's always room for improvement and that is why leaders always aim and push their people towards excellence.

Leadership is about being flexible and collaborative without compromising core ethical standards to motivate, mentor, and hold people accountable. One leadership style does not fit all or all situations.

Flexible and collaborative leaders, and Joint Base San Antonio has many, encourage their people to embrace excellence, respect diversity and maximize their potential.

Leadership question: do you use a flexible and collaborative leadership style when leading your people? I hope your answer is yes.

## Sequestration pinch includes tuition assistance suspension

By Amaani Lyle

American Forces Press Service

Though budget woes led the Army, Marine Corps and Air Force to suspend their tuition assistance programs and the Navy continues to consider its options, the program is important to the Defense Department and to service members, Pentagon Press Secretary George Little said at a news conference Tuesday.

"The program enables the professional and personal development of our service members and facilitates their transition

to the civilian workforce," Little said.

The press secretary placed the blame on a "sequestration" mechanism in budget law that kicked in March 1, triggering across-the-board spending cuts that Pentagon officials repeatedly had warned would harm the nation's military readiness.

"Let me be clear: we're here because of sequestration," he said. "If sequestration were averted, we may be facing a different set of choices on these and other programs."

Last week, Little said,

the Defense Department's comptroller issued guidance suggesting the services consider significant reductions in funding tuition assistance applicants, effective immediately, for the duration of the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30.

"We're in a period of terrible budget uncertainty," Little said. "This department ... is making multiple decisions that aren't exactly to our liking, but we are having to swallow bitter pills not because we want to pop them, but because we're forced to make some very tough decisions."

Such decisions, Little explained, are the "unfortunate outcomes" of budgetary uncertainty and the need to ensure the availability of necessary resources to respond to crises around the world.

"We're ... walking soberly into the sequester period," Little said, before relating Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel's direction on the matter.

"His very clear instructions have been for us to, in a very calm, cool and collected manner, deal with the hand we've been dealt, and it's an unfortunate hand," Little

said.

Little maintained that DOD officials have been transparent, both within the department and with the American people, about sequestration's consequences.

"We've been very clear about impacts to readiness, [and the] services are making decisions on a broad range of programs," Little said. "It should come as no surprise to anyone that these kinds of decisions are coming down the pike."

For more information, call 221-1738 (Army) or 221-0853 (Air Force).



## News Briefs

### CPAC Furlough Call Center

The Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Civilian Personnel Advisory Center established a Furlough Call Center. For more information, call 466-3065 or 221-1425 or email [usarmy.jbsa.hqda-cpac.mbx.inquiry@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.jbsa.hqda-cpac.mbx.inquiry@mail.mil). For the latest furlough information, visit the CPAC website at <http://www.samhouston.army.mil/cpac/>.

### eOPF Unavailable March 15-18

The Electronic Official Personnel Folder will be unavailable from 4 p.m. Friday through 5 a.m. Monday as the Office of Personnel Management is moving the eOPF East environment from Ashburn, Va., to Lakewood, Colo. The eOPF is the electronic version of the official federal civilian employee personnel folder. The current website will not change. People can still access the eOPF website at <https://eopf1.nbc.gov/army/> once the transition to the new facility is complete.

### AMEDDC&S Health Fair April 3

The Army Medical Department Center and School's Department of Preventive Health Services hosts a health fair from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 3 at Building 2841, in the Willis Hall food court. The fair, titled "Public Health is Return On Investment: Save Lives, Save Money," includes information about fad diets/supplements, healthy eating, relaxation, spiritual health, exercise and running, a sports shoe clinic, holistic medicine, immunizations, safe sex/sexually transmitted diseases, hypertension prevention and management, diabetes, hearing and vision conservation, and other informational and interactive presentations. A music ensemble from the U.S. Air Force Band will play from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 221-7409 for more information.

### OCS Structure Interview Panel Board April 10

The 502nd Force Support Squadron's Military Personnel Branch conducts an Army Officer Candidate School Structure Interview Panel Board at 8 a.m. April 10 in Room 117B of Building 2263 on Stanley Road. All Soldiers must have a bachelor degree and cannot be over the age of 32. All OCS applicants must

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# Intel training gets off to fast start at JBSA-Camp Bullis

By Gregory Rippas  
470th MIB Public Affairs

Any military intelligence Soldiers who arrived at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis expecting a few days of classroom review before diving into their training were sorely disappointed.

Personnel from the 470th MI Brigade who run the Intelligence and Security Command Detention Training Facility immediately "put them to work" in their training scenarios.

"We are using an active training model," said Brian Lloyd, IDTF deputy director. "It's more like OJT – with the bulk of the training focused on mission execution."

The IDTF allows MI Soldiers to practice their intelligence-gathering skills using a building and equipment much like they would use in an overseas mission.

Scenarios include forays to mock villages in remote areas of JBSA-Camp Bullis ("source operations") and continue with trainees questioning "detainees" (played by category II contract linguists in the target language to add realism and provide cultural benefit to the training program) and analyzing interviews and other essential elements of the intelligence puzzle.

MI battalions and battlefield surveillance battalions have steadily rotated teams through the IDTF training over the last few years.

While the Soldiers receive training on a more individual and departmentalized basis before arriving at JBSA-Camp Bullis, they are able to put all their training together with the help of the IDTF and its support staff.

However, Lloyd said the units are encour-



Photo by 1st Lt. Erna Jablonski

Soldiers from the 163rd Military Intelligence Battalion approach the mock village of Matikhan while an observer-controller (left) watches the exercise. The team certification exercises on Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis included training at the Intelligence and Security Command Detention Training Facility operated by the 470th MI Brigade on behalf of the command.

aged to do more of their training themselves.

"The concept is for the trainees to jump into the simulated environment," Lloyd explained. "They will retain more in learning by doing."

"Then they can pinpoint or tailor which training they need,"

Lloyd added. "The unit can look within its own

ranks and empower officers and noncommissioned officers to make the training happen in accordance with the unit standards."

The latest unit to utilize the IDTF is the 163rd MI Battalion from Fort Hood, Texas. Over recent weeks, the battalion's multi-function, signals intelligence and

operations management teams have undergone certification in their respective intelligence training.

"We'll be back in May to certify the entire battalion," said 1st Lt. Erna Jablonski, battalion adjutant. "We'll be one step closer in preparing for overseas deployment."

In addition to the IDTF staff, other members of the 470th MI Brigade who actively supported the interrogation and "source operations" training included Soldiers serving as observer-controllers. Personnel from the Army Operations Group, National Ground Intelligence Center, 704th MI Brigade and 303rd MI Battalion also supported the training.

"It's all about following Army guidance," Lloyd said. "Army units should take a more active role in training their own formations."

## AFAF fundraising begins March 25 at JBSA locations

By Alex Salinas

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

The 2013 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign, which raises money to support active duty, retirees, Reserve, National Guard and their dependents in financial distress, will be recognized from March 25 through May 3 at Joint Base San Antonio.

The campaign will kick-off at JBSA-Lackland with a breakfast 8 a.m. March 21 at Lackland's Gateway Club. Retired Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Robert Gaylor will speak at

JBSA-Randolph's kick-off 8 a.m. March 22 at Randolph's Parr Club.

The AFAF campaign, made up of Air Force Villages Inc., Air Force Aid Society Inc., Air Force Enlisted Village Inc. and the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation, help eligible recipients with emergencies, educational support or securing retirement homes for widows or widowers of Air Force members in need of financial assistance.

"This campaign is about Airmen helping Airmen," Capt. Celeste Lukshis, JBSA AFAF project officer, said.

"Each unit (at every JBSA location) is encouraged to do fundraising however they choose."

Unit project officers will be chosen to supervise fundraising for every unit, which then may assign key workers to help collect donations.

Only active-duty members and retirees will be asked to donate according to Air Force regulations, but the goal is to spread the word to "100 percent" of those who can contribute, Lukshis said.

The goal is also to meet or surpass last year's donations of \$347,039 for JBSA-

Lackland; \$157,730 for JBSA-Randolph; and \$4,579 for JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

"San Antonio is 'Military City, USA,'" 1st Lt. Ryan Nichols, Lackland AFAF project officer, said. "We have one of the largest military presences in one city, and this campaign focuses on taking care of our own."

Nichols learned firsthand what the AFAF means to thousands of people as a young airman first class.

"It was the morning of Nov. 25, 2000, when I received one of the worst phone calls," he

said. "My first sergeant on the other end told me my father had passed away. So many thoughts went through my mind and then the realization that I couldn't afford to go home to be with my family hit me."

"My first sergeant helped me fill out a form to get the funds needed to fly home. The AFAF is for situations just like this."

To access contribution forms and general information about AFAF and its affiliates, visit <http://www.afassistancefund.org/>.

# 'Epic Flood' rocks large popular music ensemble competition

By Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos  
ARNORTH Public Affairs

Some of "Fort Sam's Own" rocked its way to the top yet again, as "Epic Flood," a rock

band ensemble from the 323rd Army Band "Fort Sam's Own," rocked and rolled to victory at the Army Band 2012 Mission Performance Team of the Year competition.

For the second straight year, the members earned bragging rights in the large popular music ensemble category of the competition, held virtually via videos posted on the

Army Band intranet.

What makes the competition somewhat unique is that all members of the Army band community are eligible to cast their votes.

The competition categorizes large popular music ensembles as "performing any genre of popular music with nine or more performers." The inaugural contest kicked off in 2011; it is open to all active, reserve and National Guard bands.

"Since we have won the award every year since it started, they are going to start calling it the 'Epic Flood' award," said lead vocalist Staff Sgt. Tony Cooper.

While the members of the 323rd Army Band play together as part of the overall band, they also play in smaller mission performance teams.

"We have a Latin band, two brass quintets, a ceremonial band, a show band and two rock bands within the 323rd Army



Sgt. 1st Class Dion Kruczek, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of "Epic Flood," one of the smaller musical ensembles that are part of 323rd Army Band "Fort Sam's Own," belts out "Bohemian Rhapsody" during the Night of the Rocking Dead Halloween show Oct. 30 at the Fort Sam Houston Theater. The group won the large popular music ensemble category of the Army Band 2012 Mission Performance Team of the Year competition.

Band," said Sgt. 1st Class Dion Kruczek, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of Epic Flood.

There are currently 52 Soldiers assigned to the band, so many of the Soldiers play in several MPTs.

Epic Flood, with 10 members, is classified as a large rock band and as a show band. The band members are assigned to the various performance teams based on the instruments they play.

"Epic Flood got its name because it combines

our two small rock bands into one epic flood of music," explained vocalist Spc. Andre Badeaux.

The members of Epic Flood said they were thrilled about their repeat in earning top honors.

"I feel so excited about winning a second year in a row," Kruczek said. "I am retiring at the end of the month, and this was a very great way to end my career as a bandsman."

One of the reasons for Epic Flood's success, said

**See BAND, P9**



U.S. Army courtesy photos

Members of "Epic Flood," a rock band ensemble from the 323rd Army Band "Fort Sam's Own," rocks out to Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" during the "Night of the Rocking Dead" Halloween show Oct. 30 at the Fort Sam Houston Theater.





## News Briefs

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see their S1/G1 prior to submitting their OCS packets, which must be turned by March 29. Call 221-0885 for more information. For complete listing and checklist of the OCS requirements and forms, visit <https://www.hrcapps.army.mil/site/protect/branches/officer/Operations/Accessions/OCS/index.htm>

### MacArthur Grandstand Renovation

Renovation of the MacArthur Field reviewing grandstand to add additional seats and a command reviewing area is scheduled to start in April. The current grandstand will remain open for use during the construction project. Upon completion, the existing grandstand will close for construction. The new and renovated facility will double the size of the existing grandstand, contain a covered command review area, have a limestone exterior and also upgrade the ventilation, sound and lighting systems. There should be no interruptions to the use during the construction process. Call 295-0621 for more information.

### Military Tax Assistance Centers Open

The MTAC is open to all eligible service members, retirees and dependents to obtain free assistance with federal and state tax return preparation. The MTAC at 2271 Reynolds Road is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday by appointment only. Call 295-1040. The San Antonio Military Medical Center also has an office, call 916-1040.

### SAMMC Dining Renovations

The San Antonio Military Medical Center's main dining facility and Grab-n-Go undergoes renovations beginning in April. During the renovation, the Rucksack and the Café Express on the first level of the new tower will remain open. Several temporary dining options will be available, such as the "Market on the Green," a temporary structure located outside the Garden entrance. There will also be two new Grab-n-Go kiosks: "The Renovation Station" located near women's health clinic and "The Salad Stop," located between the pharmacy and laboratory.

# Burn Flight Team sets record with Singapore mission

By Steven Galvan

U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Public Affairs

For more than 60 years, the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston has provided specialized medical response through its Burn Flight Team, deploying to transport burned and critically injured patients throughout the world to the center for definitive care.

The team set a new record Feb. 22 for the longest continuous flight by flying for 19 hours on a non-stop flight from Singapore to San Antonio, traveling more than 9,850 miles, which surpasses its previous longest flight by more than 3,000 miles.

Since its inception in 1952, the BFT has been able to deploy its five-person teams year-round within hours of notification of a mission.

The specialized team is normally composed of a burn surgeon specialized in critical care, a critical care registered nurse, a licensed vocational nurse, respiratory therapist, and an operations non-commissioned officer.

The team usually departs from the San Antonio International Airport on a commercial flight with all the specialized critical care equipment necessary to transport one or more patients on an Air Force C-17 configured for patient care en route to San Antonio.

For the last decade, the BFT has conducted almost 100 missions between Landstuhl Regional Medical Center



Photo by Staff Sgt. Seth B. Holland

(From left) Capt. Michael Campbell, Lt. Col. Booker T. King, Sgt. Nikenson Penette, and Staff Sgt. Daniel J. Nelson monitor the patient during the flight from Singapore to San Antonio.

in Germany and transported more than 350 patients injured in Afghanistan and Iraq.

The recent mission to Singapore provided unique challenges for the team as they transferred the patient from the hospital to the aircraft and on to San Antonio.

According to Lt. Col. (Dr.) Booker T. King, team leader and burn center deputy director, the mission went precisely according to plan with a combined effort from all the branches of the U.S. military, the International SOS organization, and the TRICARE Pacific Area office.

"The success of the mission relied on all these agencies working together in order to coordinate multiple aspects of the transfer beyond that which we normally experience when flying in and out of Germany," King said.

In order to make this mission a success,

Army team members synchronized their efforts with the Marines on the ground, with the Air Force for the transport aircraft, the Navy for ground transportation and storage of the equipment in Singapore and the ISOS and TRICARE for the care management and transfer of the patient from the hospital to the aircraft.

"The success of the recent Burn Flight Team mission to Singapore exemplifies the dedication of military professionals demonstrating limitless commitment to care for their brothers and sisters in arms," said ISR Burn Center director, Col. (Dr.) Evan Renz.

"It also reflects the collaborative efforts of a tri-service team whose skills have been honed over a decade of combat support."

As with all transport missions, highly trained personnel and specialized equipment are used

to stabilize the patient for the long flight home. Both Air Force Critical Care Air Transport Teams and BFT can be utilized to transport burn casualties.

"Many burn patients are transported by CCATT," King said. "We are usually involved with patients who sustain burns over 40 percent of their body or those with inhalation injuries."

King also explained that the BFT is ideally suited to care for casualties with complex traumatic injuries, such as those with a combination of burns, amputations, chest, abdominal and head injuries.

The six team members on the Singapore mission were King; critical care nurse Cpt. Michael A. Campbell; licensed vocational nurses Sgts. Macneil Ramos and Nikenson Penette; along with respiratory therapists Staff Sgts. Seth B. Holland and

Daniel J. Nelson.

"Everyone on this team has to be proficient with their job," King said. "It's not uncommon for a team member – for example, a respiratory technician – to assist the nurse and help with wound care while we are in midair. We all work as a team for the benefit of the patient."

Not all Soldiers assigned to the burn center become members of the BFT. Before anyone is selected to be a member of the team they have to work on the burn ward for many months and be selected from among their peers.

"They must also successfully complete Air Force CCATT training," said Holland, who has been with the BFT for more than a year.

Once a mission is complete, the BFT members immediately prepare for the next one and stand ready to live up to their motto of "Anytime, Anywhere."

## ARMY NORTH HELPS CELEBRATE TEXAS INDEPENDENCE

Maj. Gen. Adolph McQueen Jr., deputy commanding general for support, U.S. Army North (Fifth Army), recites Texas history during the Texas Independence Day Celebration at the Alamo March 2. The event, conducted by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Alamo Mission Chapter, honored the men and women who fought and died for Texas Independence. The Texas Declaration of Independence was signed 177 years ago on March 2, 1836. "This Declaration was unanimously adopted, with no amendments," said Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff, who provided the Texas Independence Day address at the ceremony. "They knew why they were there and what they needed to do."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos

## WRESTLERS 'LOCK DOWN' SOLDIERS AT WFSC

Shawn "SuperMex" Hernandez (center), a professional wrestler with Total Nonstop Action Wrestling, jokes about "locking down" wounded warriors Spcs. Steven Grado (left) and Jesus Zarzoa while visiting the Warrior and Family Support Center March 5. Hernandez said he wanted to visit the wounded warriors because of his dad. "My father was a Green Beret for 30 years," Hernandez said. "He was my hero growing up, so any time I can give back to Soldiers, I am down with it. You don't really think about the casualties of war; seeing them is important." Hernandez and Velvet Sky, a fellow TNA wrestler, were in town for a "Lockdown" wrestling match at the Alamodome recently.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos

## JBSA-FSH RECOGNIZES WOMEN'S MONTH

Retired Capt. Marie Graves Irving (left) shares a laugh with retired Col. Ruth L. Nancarrow during the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Women's History Month celebration Friday at the Sam Houston Community Center on Joint Base Fort Sam Houston. The contributions of women to the nation's success were recognized during the event, hosted by the U.S. Army 5th Recruiting Brigade commander, Col. L. Wayne Magee Jr. and his wife Lela. During the event, retired Cols. Rhea Sue Anderson and Ruth L. Nancarrow, retired Maj. Marian Weller and retired Capts. Marie Graves Irving and Patricia Hugle Biggs were recognized for serving the nation in various conflicts that spanned the time period from World War II to Desert Storm. Guest speaker Brig. Gen. Theresa C. Carter, commander of the 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio, made the point that she hopes someday women are so integrated into the fields of science, technology, engineering and math, that firsts for women will be a thing of the past.



Photo by James E. Frost



# DOD comptroller: civilian furloughs can begin April 26

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

Unless Congress acts to end sequestration, furloughs for Defense Department civilian employees can begin April 26, the department's comptroller said at the Pentagon Monday.

Robert F. Hale discussed the furlough planning process with a Pentagon audience. The comptroller also took questions sent in via Facebook and Twitter.

DOD is the only agency in the U.S. government that has to notify Congress when it wants to impose furloughs. Officials did that Feb. 20.

"There is a 45-day waiting period after we submit that notification before furloughs can start," Hale said.

The department asked commands to identify civilians who would be excepted from furloughs. That information is back in the Pentagon, Hale said, and officials are reviewing the recommendations. Their goal is to complete that review by March 15, he added.

After notifying Congress, the department began legally required bargaining with unions. About a dozen unions have national consultation rights, Hale said, and local commanders are in the process of notifying several local unions.

"The unions, in this case, don't have the right to bargain not to do the furloughs, he

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## BAMC from P1

nam veteran, his passion for his cause is very real as he continues to show support and appreciation for our nation's troops.

"We want people to know that if they volunteer and serve their country, that Americans are grateful for what they do," he told them. "I just try to show my gratitude in various ways."

The event included a two-hour concert from his "Lt. Dan Band" and a classic barbecue prepared by celebrity chef Robert Irvine from "Restaurant: Impossible."

The band rocked the stage, covering everything from classic rock to the greatest country hits for more than 5,800 attendees.

While the food serving lines snaked around the entire parking lot, they moved along quickly as servers piled plates high with hamburgers, hot dogs, barbecued chicken with all the fixings.

Irvine said he was

humbled by the sacrifices of BAMC staff and patients at the medical center and also praised the kitchen staff for helping with the food preparation a day before and during the event.

"Everyone in the kitchen was outstanding, especially the 10 wounded warriors that helped in the kitchen from the moment we arrived (a day before) and back again at 5 a.m. this morning – it almost brings you to tears," he said.

BAMC Commander Col. Kyle Campbell called the celebration "just incredible. The staff and patients greatly deserve these acts of gratitude. The BAMC staff make the amazing, routine. We couldn't be prouder."

Sinise came back March 7 to visit with inpatients at SAMMC. He thanked the Soldiers for their sacrifices and made sure they knew people are grateful and appreciate what they do.

"Thank you for your service," Sinise told the Soldiers. "I am grateful



Photo by Robert Shields

Brooke Army Medical Center commander Col. Kyle Campbell (left) welcomes Gary Sinise and Chef Robert Irvine during BAMC Appreciation Day March 6. The Academy Award-winning actor and philanthropist, famously known as Lt. Dan in the movie "Forrest Gump" and the founder of The Gary Sinise Foundation, hosted the Appreciation Day for BAMC wounded warriors, patients, staff and their families.

for your sacrifices you all have made to defend our nation."

Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band play an average of 30 to 40 shows per year in support of the foundation's mission of serving and honoring

veterans, first responders, their families and those in need.

For more on this celebration and photos, visit the BAMC Facebook page, at <http://www.facebook.com/brookearmy-medicalcenter>.



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**FURLOUGH from P8**

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said. "They do have the right to bargain how they are implemented."

If Congress does not act on sequestration, later this month the department will send letters to the excepted employees and propose furloughs for the rest, Hale said. There is a seven-day period for people to reply to their letters, followed by a 30-day waiting period.

"At the end of that period, we can send decisions of furloughs, and those furloughs can start," he said.

When the formal notice is sent, civilian employees

have the right to appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board.

"We've never done this and I hope we never do," Hale said. "It's not quite clear what this appeal right will be, but the appeal right is there."

If Congress does not act, civilian employees will be furloughed without pay for 22 days – one day a week through the Sept. 30 end of the fiscal year.

For affected civilian employees, this amounts to a 20 percent cut in pay from the beginning of furloughs through the end of the fiscal year.

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**BAND from P4**

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Kruczek, is the chemistry within the group.

"We were lucky to have a group of musicians that had great chemistry and similar backgrounds," she said.

One of the difficulties Army bands face, said Cooper, is that the musicians are only with the group for two or three years before they move on to their next duty stations.

"The chemistry of the group can change very quickly," he explained. "A lot of the members of Epic Flood will be leaving over the next few months, so it will be an entirely different group next year."

The band members also said that their song choice was vital in help-

ing to put the group over the top.

For this competition, the band chose the Queen song "Bohemian Rhapsody" to show off their harmonic prowess. Their entry was a video recording of their performance at the Night of the Rocking Dead Halloween from Oct. 30 at the Fort Sam Houston Theater.

The song, said Badeaux, is an extremely challenging one. And as challenging as the song itself may be, the group members said they felt that if they nailed it, they had a great chance of repeating their success from last year.

"If we hadn't done that song well, I wouldn't have sent it in to be judged," said 1st Sgt. James Kruczek, 323rd Army Band.

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# Prayer luncheon helps nourish body, soul

By Lori Newman  
JBSA-FSH News Leader

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The Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston annual prayer breakfast became a luncheon March 7 as the community gathered to enjoy food and fellowship.

The event, held at the Sam Houston Community Center, featured prayers offered by several members of the chapel community and words of inspiration from a former Fifth Army commander, retired Lt. Gen. Tom Jaco, along with entertainment from the JBSA-FSH Samoan Choir.

Jaco talked about what is important in life, as it was explained to him by three great patriots.

Louis Stumberg, civilian aide to the secretary of the Army, once told Jaco life is all about "God, family and country; no more, no less.

You have to put God first and if you put God first everything else falls into place."

The second patriot was a 100-year-old veteran who Jaco would visit monthly when he was stationed in Washington, D.C. The veteran talked to him about the promises he had made to God throughout his lifetime and the significance of keeping those promises.

Retired Gen. Richard Cavazos was also influential in Jaco's life.

"[Cavazos] would always put his hand on your shoulder as he shook your hand and he would say, 'I will see you on the high ground,'" Jaco said.

"It told you two things. You knew he had the confidence in you to take the high ground, whether it was physical high ground or



Photo by Lori Newman

Chaplain (Col.) Gary Studniewski (right), U.S. Army North command chaplain, presents retired Lt. Gen. Tom Jaco a token of appreciation during the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston prayer luncheon March 7 at the Sam Houston Community Center.

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See PRAYER, P18







## Junior Enlisted Member



**ARMY**  
Spc. Ricardo I. VacaMedina  
(U.S. Army South)



**MARINE CORPS**  
Cpl. Christopher Cohen  
(4th Reconnaissance Battalion)



**NAVY**  
HM2 Jacob T. Miller  
(Navy Medicine Training Support Center)



**AIR FORCE**  
Airman 1st Class Eric G. Kay  
(502nd Air Base Wing)



**COAST GUARD**  
IS3 Harrison Tarbell  
(Coast Guard Cryptologic Unit Texas)

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO  
2012 ANNUAL WINNERS



**ARMY**  
Staff Sgt. Brandon J. Carroll  
(Mission and Installation Contracting Command)



**MARINE CORPS**  
Sgt. Deyvi Gomez Mondragon  
(4th Recon. Bn.)



**NAVY**  
LS1 Tanya Austin  
(Navy Operational Support Center)



**AIR FORCE**  
Tech. Sgt. Amanda J. Caldwell  
(67th Network Warfare Wing)



**COAST GUARD**  
IS2 Florencia Mendez  
(CGCU Texas)

## Senior Enlisted Member



**ARMY**  
Sgt. 1st Class Phillip G. Stowe  
(Installation Management Command)



**MARINE CORPS**  
Gunnery Sgt. John Herrera  
(4th Recon. Bn.)



**NAVY**  
Chief Petty Officer Jason Silvis  
(Naval Technical Training Center)



**AIR FORCE**  
Master Sgt. John R. Phiasiripanyo  
(Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency)



**COAST GUARD**  
Chief Petty Officer Alan Booker  
(CGCU Texas)

## First Sergeant (Large Unit)



**ARMY**  
1st Sgt. Anthony Walls  
(ARNORTH)



**NAVY**  
Chief Petty Officer Rodney Hopes  
(NOSC)



**AIR FORCE**  
Master Sgt. Jamie C. Williams  
(37th Training Wing)



**ARMY**  
1st Sgt. Mildred Lara  
(Army South)

## First Sergeant (Small Unit)



**MARINE CORPS**  
Master Sgt. Ruben E. Villarreal  
(4th Recon. Bn.)



**NAVY**  
Chief Petty Officer Dave Matthews  
(NOSC)



**AIR FORCE**  
Senior Master Sgt. Brandon M. English  
(59th Medical Wing)

## Civilian Non-Supervisory Category I



**NAVY**  
Miguel Flores  
(NOSC)



**AIR FORCE**  
Viola Gutierrez  
(37th TRW)

## Civilian Non-Supervisory Category II



**ARMY**  
Jean Whitlock  
(470th Military Intelligence Brigade)



**NAVY**  
Danielle Narron  
(NMTSC)



**AIR FORCE**  
LeAnn M. Luft  
(502nd ABW)

## Civilian Supervisory Category I



**NAVY**  
Anthony Ortiz  
(NTTC)



**AIR FORCE**  
Donald A. Griffith  
(Air Force Personnel Center)

## Civilian Supervisory Category II



**ARMY**  
Dwayne Giles  
(ARNORTH)



**NAVY**  
Curtis Davis  
(Navy Medicine Education and Training Command)



**AIR FORCE**  
Sara B. Rodriguez  
(12th Flying Training Wing)









# Army South builds partner nation capacity

By Robert R. Ramon  
U.S. Army Public Affairs

As part of the effort to achieve the chief of staff of the Army's vision to strengthen relationships and improve interoperability with partner nations, U.S. Army South utilizes the Military Personnel Exchange Program and Army Section Chiefs throughout the Western Hemisphere.

In the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility of Central and South America and the Caribbean there are Soldiers working in the MPEP and as ARSECs in more than 25 countries.

Army South, the Army service component command for SOUTHCOM, works closely with ARSECs and Soldiers in the MPEP to synchronize and coordinate efforts working with partner nations.

"The MPEP is about exchanging experiences with the host nation army and developing and strengthening partnerships," said Sgt. 1st Class Tony Martinez, a U.S. Army NCO serving in Bogota, Colombia. "My main goal is to build partner capacity, interop-



Photo by Robert R. Ramon

Col. James K. Rose (right), U.S. Army South's security cooperation division chief, meets with Army Section Chiefs and Military Personnel Exchange Program participants at the Army South headquarters March 6.

erability and relationships between the U.S. and Colombian armies."

According to Army Regulation 614-10, Army Military Personnel Exchange Program with Military Services of Other Nations, the MPEP objectives are to support the Army Security Cooperation Strategy and Army Campaign Support Plan, strengthen alliances and coalition partners by building partner capacity and maintaining or enhancing relationships in support of a global strategy.

The MPEP is typically

a one-for-one exchange of personnel that takes place between the U.S. and partner nation armies.

The individual is integrated in the host nation's military in positions commensurate with their grade and qualifications. The length of the tour may vary from 12 to 36 months, but average about 24 months.

As a senior noncommissioned officer, Martinez said his goal is to help to strengthen the Colombian army's NCO corps.

"In the U.S. Army, the NCOs conduct most of the

Soldier training and carry out most of the daily duties; while in Colombia, the officers do all of those things," said Martinez.

"My goal is to show them that they can rely more on their NCOs and give them more tasks, so the officers can use their time orchestrating other missions."

ARSECs are foreign area officers assigned to partner nation countries to act as a direct link between the Army and partner nation militaries and to serve as a singular point of contact within American embassy coun-

try teams to coordinate and deliver all army-to-army assistance.

"I'm the guy who goes out and talks to the partner nation military, listens to what needs it has and what areas it wants to work with us," said Lt. Col. Steven M. Winkleman, the ARSEC in Peru. "I take that information and go back to Army South, or higher, and find the resources to bring them together."

Officers are selected as foreign area officers after serving approximately seven years in their respective career fields.

Once selected, they undergo up to four years of specialized training to ensure they have the language, and foreign area cultural and technical skills to perform the tasks requested of them.

While Winkleman and other ARSECs within the AOR work directly for SOUTHCOM, they work closely with Army South on a regular basis.

"We work directly in support of the SOUTHCOM theater security cooperation plan and we're principle interlocutors with Army South in executing the Army portion of that plan down at the country team level," Winkleman said.

Winkleman said the job of an ARSEC is not without its challenges.

"We're operating in a different culture, so there can be challenges in translating what our needs and desires are and understanding the needs of our partner nation counterparts, interpreting them and then conveying them to Army South and higher," said Winkleman.

Despite the cultural differences, Winkleman finds his job rewarding, especially when it comes to building relationships.

"We operate in a unique environment at a strategic level so we're able to see some tangible benefits," Winkleman said. "It's very much a relationship-based business. I have often made some great friends within our partner nation armies."

Martinez plans to recommend the MPEP to his fellow Soldiers.

"I have learned quite a few things about how their military works and it will help me professionally in future assignments," Martinez said. "I enjoy the challenges that the job brings."

"The relationships that I have established mean a lot," Martinez said.



Photo by Sgt. Lee Ezzell

Members of the San Antonio Living History Association honor guard fire a flintlock volley March 6 during an annual memorial service to honor the heroes of the Alamo at the Cenotaph in Alamo Plaza. The event marks 177 years since the fall of the Alamo.

# Army North joins community in honoring heroes of the Alamo

By Sgt. Lee Ezzell  
ARNORTH Public Affairs

The commanding general for U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) delivered the keynote address at the Alamo March 6 during the annual memorial service at the Cenotaph in Alamo Plaza.

Lt. Gen. William Caldwell IV, who also serves as the senior commander for Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis, was flanked by an Army color guard bearing the

flags of the states and nations of those who died at the Alamo 177 years ago.

He invited those in attendance to picture the Alamo as it appeared all those years ago. As Caldwell described the historic scene, he reminded those present that regardless of the various backgrounds of the warriors, they were united under one cause.

Caldwell, drawing sentiments from a letter originally written by Pvt. Daniel Cloud, who died in

the battle of the Alamo, to his brother, John, in which he concluded that because of the ideals of "... humanity, liberty and human happiness, we will always remember the Alamo."

The memorial service, conducted by the Alamo Mission Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, also featured several presentations by the San Antonio Living History Association, including

**See ALAMO, P18**

## AETC command chief to Airmen: 'You matter'

By Staff Sgt. Clinton Atkins  
Air Education and Training  
Command Public Affairs

The command chief for Air Education and Training Command is leading today's Airmen by being out front and connecting.

AETC Command Chief Master Sgt. Gerardo Tapia Jr., formerly the command chief with the 12th Air Force at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., has been on the job just more than a month and already knows what he's going to do to lead AETC's Airmen. He's been doing it his entire career – taking care of Airmen.

After 28 years of service, this is Tapia's third assignment as a command chief.

His background in personnel and master's degree in human resources development and management give him a



Photo by Joel Martinez

Air Education and Training Command Chief Master Sgt. Gerardo Tapia (right) visits with 502nd Mission Support Group Command Sgt. Maj. Donald J. Freeman (center) and Staff Sgt. Nathaniel G. Ashton during a tour of Joint Base San Antonio locations Feb. 20.

distinct advantage when it comes to developing and leading people.

"I am incredibly comfortable being in the business of developing

our Airmen," said Tapia. "Caring for people is a natural thing for me. I've always had a passion for people."

He plans to visit with

as many Airmen as possible in order to be a conduit between AETC Commander Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr.

"If General Rice comes

in here and asks how our Airmen are doing, how can I answer that question if I haven't been out to the field with them, shared meals with them, come in late and walked the dorms and been in the duty sections," he said. "That's where you get the real feel for how things are going."

Tapia recently made his first base visit as the new command chief to Luke AFB, Ariz., where he spent time with Airmen to talk about key issues such as Comprehensive Airmen Fitness.

Reminding Airmen about the faith and trust the Air Force has in them is a priority for Tapia.

"My big message to them is that standards in this command matter; that level of excellence that we have grown accustomed to putting forth in this command matters;

the extra effort they give us every single day matters; that their families matter; that their professional development matters to me," he said.

Tapia will deliver that message throughout the command. And even though he may not be able to reach every Airman, he hopes his words are echoed all over AETC.

"I honestly wish I had enough time to go around and meet every single person in the command and tell them I'm proud of them and thank them for their sacrifices," he said.

"I have the Airmen on my mind constantly," said Tapia. "I care deeply about them and their families. I will be working as hard as I possibly can to ensure that we have their best interests in mind. I am their voice for that."



**JBSA from P1**

men and civilians in Joint Base San Antonio for their commitment and selfless service to our nation," said Joint Base San Antonio Command Chief Master Sgt. Jose A. LugoSantiago. "Our nominees and award recipients distinguished themselves as the best of the best."

"This event brought us together as a community," said Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney J. Rhoades, Mission & Installation Contracting Command. "It afforded us a chance to meet and interact with the very best of our Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, Coastguardsmen, and civilians. I am always grateful for the opportunity to learn more about what each of the services is doing for Joint Base San Antonio."

"We have diversity in JBSA that exists nowhere else," said LugoSantiago about the decision to hold a joint ceremony this year. "Why not celebrate the

excellence that exists when we come together to celebrate our diversity? We are stronger when we come together."

"The JBSA Annual Awards Ceremony was a great step towards unifying all the services in the community," said Command Master Chief James R. Perry, Navy Medical Education and Training Command. "It was great to see people together from all the services, along with our civilians. It makes the JBSA family stronger in both our personal and professional development."

The official party was led by Brig. Gen. Theresa C. Carter, Commander, 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio; retired Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Gene Overstreet and LugoSantiago.

To see more photos from the ceremony, click on the JBSA Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/JointBaseSanAntonio>.

**ALAMO from P17**

a flintlock volley in memory of the fallen and a reading of a letter to Gen. Sam Houston from Col. William Travis.

The "Travis Letter" was read by Phillip De La Pena, vice president, San Antonio Living History Association, who dressed as Travis for the reading. The letter was originally penned within the walls of the Alamo by Travis just days before the Alamo fell.

Charles Cheever, president emeritus, Broadway Bancshares, called out the name of each state, or nation, as well as the number of their heroes who died in the battle of the Alamo. As he did this, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Soldiers, who bore that particular flag, rendered a salute.

Staff Sgt. Luke Jefferson, 323rd Army Band, played "El Degüello," the last music heard by the defenders in the Alamo that day in 1836, which signifies the order for complete destruction of the enemy.



**Photo by Sgt. Lee Ezzell**

Lt. Gen. William Caldwell IV, commanding general U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) and senior commander Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis, delivers the keynote address March 6 during the annual memorial service to honor the heroes of the Alamo at the Cenotaph in Alamo Plaza.

Jefferson also played Taps, the traditional Army bugle call, to conclude the ceremony.

**PRAYER from P10**

moral high ground. You knew he wasn't sending you, he was going with you the whole way."

Cavazos also explained to Jaco the significance of watching the sunrise, because some Soldiers would not make it to see the sunrise.

"God, family and country and for good measure, I'm going to throw in higher ground and sunrises," Jaco concluded.

"You in this room understand God, family and country better than anybody. You live it every day; it's what your life is about," he said.

Lt. Gen. William Caldwell IV, commanding general, U.S. Army North and senior commander, Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis, thanked Jaco for his incredibly moving remarks.

"You have made our National Prayer Luncheon a very special occasion," Caldwell said.

"I think everyone will walk away from here and think about God, family and country; and think about taking the high ground and seeing you there, sir."



# INSIDE THE GATE

## AMEDDC&S Hospital Corps Social

March 28, 4:30 p.m., Army Medical Department Museum, 3898 Stanley Road. Light refreshments and snacks will be served. Tickets are \$5 each, which includes two refreshments and snacks. Call 221-3470.

## ScreamFree Parenting

Monday, Thursday, March 25 and 29 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0349.

## Dress for Success

Monday, 2-3 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0516 or 221-0412.

## Word Level 1

Tuesday, 8 a.m.-noon, Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2705.

## H.U.G.S. Playgroup

Tuesday, 9-11 a.m., Middle School Teen Center, Building 2515. Call 221-0349.

## Credit and Debt Management

Tuesday, 9-11 a.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2380.

## Battlemind (Pre) Training for Families

Tuesday, 1-3 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0946.

## Consumer Awareness

Tuesday, 2-4 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2380.

## Excel Level 1

Wednesday, 8 a.m.-noon, Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2705.

## Post Deployment Planning Training

Wednesday, 9-10:30 a.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0946.

## Mandatory First Term Financial Readiness

Wednesday, noon-4 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2380.

## BOSS Meeting

Better Opportunities for Single Service Members meets Wednesday at noon in the BOSS Room at Benner Barracks. The group offers service members recreational activities and volunteer opportunities. BOSS meets every other Wednesday at noon. Call 295-6867 or 221-3949.

## Access Level 1

Thursday, 8 a.m.-noon, Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2705.

## Hearts Apart

Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-1829 or 221-0946.

## EFMP Support Group

Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2962

or 221-0600.

## CARE Team Training

Thursday, 1:30-4 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0946.

## Preparing for a Job Fair

March 25, 2-3 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0516 or 221-0427.

## AMEDDC&S Hospital Corps Social

March 28, 4:30 p.m., Army Medical Department Museum, 3898 Stanley Road. Light refreshments and snacks will be served. Tickets are \$5 each, which includes two refreshments and snacks. Call 221-3470.

## Intramural Spring Sports

Spring flag football players must submit a letter of intent by March 25. The flag football coaches' meeting is 1 p.m. March 28. Intramural soccer players must submit a letter of intent by Monday and the coaches meeting is 1 p.m. March 25. Intramural spring softball letters of intent are due by Monday. The coaches' meeting is 1 p.m. Thurs-

day. Intramural sports are open to all DOD cardholders 18 years and older, who are not participating in an academic athletic association. All coaches' meetings will be at the Fitness Center at the METC, Building 1369. Letters of intent should be mailed to Earl Young, 2380 Stanley Rd., Building 124, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234. Call 808-5710.

## Youth Baseball Registration

The baseball registration deadline for youth, ages 3-12, is March 22. Participants must be registered at Child, Youth and School Services, Parent Central, Building 2797, with a current sport's physical. The cost is \$40 for T-ball for ages 3-4 and \$65 for ages 5-12. Practices begin March 25, with opening ceremonies on April 6. 221-4871.

## Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Child, Youth and School Services Easter Egg Hunt is 10 a.m.-noon March 23 at the Youth Sports Complex at Dodd Field. The hunts will be held on the ball fields for children up to age 10 beginning with 2 and under at 10:30 a.m. on field 1; 3-4 year olds at 10:45 a.m.

on field 2; 5-6 Year olds at 11 a.m. on field 3; special needs children at 11:15 a.m. on field 1; 7-8 year olds at 11:30 a.m. on field 2; and 9-10 year olds at 11:45 a.m. on field 4. Call 221-3502.

## Military City USA 5K

March 23, 8 a.m. starting at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center parking lot. Plenty of water, fruit and a prize wheel await runners at the finish line. The sign up is available 30 minutes prior to the start time. The top male and female finishers take home prizes. The free fun run is open to all DOD ID card holders, including children. Leave pets at home. Call 808-5709.

## Sporting Goods Flea Market

March 23-24, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., JBSA-Camp Bullis Outdoor Recreation Center. Sellers can set up inside for \$10 or outside for \$5. Call 295-7577.

## Armed Forces Team Building Instructor Trainer Course

March 27-29, 8:30 a.m.-3:45

See INSIDE, P20

## 56TH SIGNAL BATTALION CHANGES COMMAND



Photo by Rich McFadden

Col. Mark Baxter (right), 21st Signal Brigade commander, Fort Detrick, Md., passes the unit guidon to Lt. Col. Nicole Morris (left) as she assumes command of the 56th Signal Battalion during a change of command ceremony March 8 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

## ARMY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMAND READS ACROSS AMERICA

Jered Bledsoe from the U.S. Army Environmental Command reads a story by Dr. Suess to children at the Fort Sam Houston Elementary School on Read Across America Day March 1. USAEC and Fort Sam Houston Elementary School have formed a partnership and join together to benefit the children at various events throughout the school year. This is the third year USAEC has volunteered to participate at the school on Read Across America Day.



Photo by Barry Napp

# OUTSIDE THE GATE

## Monticello Park Historic District Walk

The Randolph Roadrunners volksmarch club is hosting a 5k and 10k walk Saturday at the St. Paul Catholic School gym, 350 Sutton Drive. Walks start between 8 a.m. and noon, finish by 3 p.m. For information, call 723-8574 or go to <http://randolphroadrunners.info/>.

## Alamo 13.1 Half Marathon

Runners gather in front of

Alamo between 7:15-7:20 a.m. March 24 for a photo. Race starts at 7:45 a.m. For more information visit <http://www.alamo131.com>.

## MOAA Luncheon

The Alamo Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold a luncheon 11 a.m. Thursday at the Air Force Village I Sky Lounge, 4917 Ravenswood Dr. The guest speaker is Gen. Loyd "Chip" Utterback. Cost is \$20 per person. Register by March 18 at <http://www.alamomoaa.org/event-registrationluncheon.cfm>.

## Foster a Puppy

The Department of Defense dog breeding program needs families

to foster puppies for three months. Potential foster families need time and patience to raise a puppy age 12 weeks to six months, a stimulating and safe home environment and a desire to help raise a military working dog. Call 671-3686.

## Van Autreve Sergeants Major Association

The SMA Leon L. Van Autreve Sergeants Major Association meets at 5 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the Longhorn Café, 1003 Rittiman Road. All active duty, Reserve, National Guard and retired sergeants major are invited and encouraged to attend. Call 539-1178.



**FOR SALE:** new Oakley iridium sun glasses, similar to Juliet style, 99 percent UV protection, includes hard case, \$76; patio bench, 53 inches long, patio chair, both with cushions, \$23; new Penmate dog crates, one for large dog, one for small dog; hand-crafted metal table with black marble top, 37 inches long, 16 inches wide, 32 inches high, \$75; color TV and other items. Call 313-0061.  
**FOR SALE:** Brand new Rascal wheelchair, \$700. Call 661-3765.

## INSIDE from P19

p.m., 502nd MSG Chapel Training Room, Building 2530. Call 221-2611 or 221-0918.

## Employment Readiness Job Fair

April 3, 4-7 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-1829 or 221-0946.

## Broadway Divas

Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday, through April 20 at the Harlequin Dinner Theatre. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 8 p.m. Call 222-9694 for ticket information.

## Moms and Tots Stroll

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9-11 a.m., the Fitness Center on the METC, stroll on the indoor track and win prizes. Call 808-5709.

## SKIESUnlimited Classes

SKIESUnlimited classes for children ages 18 months to 18 years include Tae Kwon Do, private piano lessons, creative dance and ballet/tap. Call 221-3381 for dates and times.

## Catfish Pond Reopen

Saturday and Sunday, noon-6 p.m., JBSA-Camp Bullis, cost is \$3 per pound. Call 295-7577.

## Golf Course Survey

Joint Base San Antonio is gathering feedback on its golf courses to improve operations and better meet the needs of patrons. The survey is online at <http://2013JBSAGolfCourseSurvey>.

[questionpro.com](http://questionpro.com).

## Central Post Gym Reopens on JBSA-FSH

MWR patrons have a new fitness center at their disposal on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston with the reopening of the Central Post Gym, Building 961, Patch Rd. The gym is open from 5 a.m.-7 p.m. weekdays and closed weekends and holidays. Call 221-3593.

## San Antonio Australian Football Club

High school and college athletes are invited to play in the San Antonio Australian Football Club. Practices held on Saturdays from 11-11:30 a.m. on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at the fields between Artillery Post, New Braunfels, Stanley, and Liscum Roads. Call 382-5305, 830-556-9397 or 426-7655.

## JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Ticket Office

The ticket office has discount tickets for Disney on Ice "Rockin' Everafter," April 10 through 14, \$14 for plaza seating and \$44 for second-row floor seating. Discounted tickets for Spurs regular-season games are also available. The ticket office is located in the Sam Houston Community Center and is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Call 808-1378.

## Sportsman Range

The range is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. DOD card holders may shoot their personal pistols, rifles and shotguns. Firearms must be registered at

JBSA-Camp Bullis. The range may close unexpectedly because of weather or troop use. Range users should call before coming out for target practice. Call 295-7577.

## Theater Arts Program

Children, ages 4 and up, can take the stage after a long day at school in the Theater Arts Program at School Age Services, Building 1705. The cost is \$80 for a month of biweekly classes. Classes are 4-5 p.m. for ages 4-6; 5-6 p.m. for ages 7-10; and 6-7 p.m. for ages 11 and up. Call 221-3381.

## Home Child Care Providers Needed

Family Child Care on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston is looking for family members interested in providing licensed child care in their homes. Providers can earn additional income at home, full or part time. Call 221-3828.

## Parent Central Customer Service

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Parent Central assists walk-in patrons from 8 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. for registration and 12:30 to 1 p.m. for out processing and payments. Parent Central is located in Building 2797, on Fort Sam Houston. Call 221-4871.

## Before and After School Care Registration

Register your child for before and after school care at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Parent Central, 221-4871. Warriors in Transition and their family members should

register at Soldier Family Assistance Center or call 916-6377. Registration is ongoing until full.

## School Liaison Office

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston School Liaison Office can assist patrons in registration, provide information about the local school system and community, educate parents on school policies, procedures, programs and schedules and home schooling. Visit <http://www.fortsammwr.com/youth/slo.html> or call 221-2214/2256.

## Story Time at the Library

Preschool children are invited to the weekly story time at 10 a.m. Thursdays, at the Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library, Building 1222 on Harney Path. Call 221-4702.

## Thrift Shop Open

The JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Thrift Shop at 3100 Zinn Road, run by the Spouses' Club of the Fort Sam Houston Area, is open to all DOD cardholders and full of clothing, shoes, housewares, toys, books, furniture, jewelry and more. Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and the third Saturday of each month. Consigned items are taken from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donations are taken anytime during regular business hours. The shop is closed for spring break, Monday through Sunday. The shop will be open March 23 and formal dresses will be on sale for half price. Call 221-5794/4537 or click on <http://www.scfsh.com>.

## CHAPEL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### PROTESTANT SERVICES

#### Sundays

#### Main Post (Gift) Chapel

Building 2200, 1605 Wilson Way  
8 and 11 a.m. - Traditional  
**Dodd Field Chapel**  
Building 1721, 3600 Dodd Blvd.  
8:30 a.m. - Samoan  
10:30 a.m. - Gospel

#### Army Medical Department

#### Regimental Chapel

Building 1398, 3545 Garden Ave.  
9:20 a.m. - 32nd Medical Brigade  
Collective Service

#### Brooke Army Medical Center Chapel

Building 3600,  
3851 Roger Brooke Rd.

10 a.m. - Traditional

#### Evans Auditorium

Building 1396, 1396 Garden Ave.  
11:01 - Contemporary  
"Crossroads"

### CATHOLIC SERVICES

#### Daily Mass

Brooke Army Medical Center Chapel  
Building 3600,  
3851 Roger Brooke Rd.  
11:05 a.m., Monday through Friday

#### Main Post (Gift) Chapel

Building 2200, 1605 Wilson Way  
11:30 a.m., Monday through Friday

#### Saturday

#### Main Post (Gift) Chapel

4:45 p.m. - Reconciliation  
5:30 p.m. - Evening Mass

#### Sunday

8 a.m. - Morning Mass, AMEDD  
8:30 a.m. - Morning Mass, BAMC  
9:30 a.m. - Morning Mass, MPC  
11:30 a.m. - Morning Mass, BAMC  
12:30 p.m. - Morning Mass, DFC

### JEWISH SERVICES

8 p.m. - Jewish Worship,  
Friday, MPC  
8:30 p.m. - Oneg Shabbat,  
Friday, MPC

### ISLAMIC SERVICE

1:30 p.m. - Jummah, Friday,  
AMEDD

### LATTER DAY SAINTS SERVICES

1 p.m. - LDS Worship, Sunday,  
AMEDD

### BUDDHIST SERVICES

1 p.m. - Buddhist Services,  
Sunday, AMEDD

*For worship opportunities of faith groups not listed here, please visit the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Chaplain's website at <http://www.samhouston.army.mil/chaplain>.*

## Weekly Weather Watch

	Mar 15	Mar 16	Mar 17	Mar 18	Mar 19	Mar 20
San Antonio Texas	83° Mostly Sunny	85° Sunny	89° Mostly Sunny	91° Mostly Sunny	80° Partly Cloudy	79° Cloudy
Kabul Afghanistan	65° Mostly Sunny	62° Partly Cloudy	63° Sunny	65° Mostly Sunny	69° Partly Cloudy	70° Mostly Cloudy

(Source: The Weather Channel at [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com))

## Edwards Aquifer Level

in feet above sea level as of March 12

**CURRENT LEVEL\* = 650.6'**

\*determines JBSA water conservation stage

**Normal - above 660'**

**Stage I - 660'**

**Stage II - 650'**

**Stage III - 642'**

**Stage IV - 640.5'**

**Stage V - 637'**

For water restrictions, visit <http://www.502abw.af.mil>.



Scan with Smartphone app to access the Joint Base San Antonio website at [www.jbsa.af.mil](http://www.jbsa.af.mil)